

Richard does not include *H. Brittonae*, which appears to be an undescribed species.

Habenaria nivea (Nutt.) Spreng.

This species, which heretofore has been known only as a native of the United States, with a range extending from Florida and Louisiana on the south to Delaware on the north, is now known to be a native of Cuba. I have examined five plants collected in Pinar del Rio Province, submitted for identification by the Director of the New York Botanical Garden. I have compared the flowers very carefully with those of *H. nivea* from Florida and other parts of the United States without being able to find distinguishing characters which indicate specific differences. There are differences, but they are slight and too trivial in my estimation to warrant the recognition of a new species.

CUBA: PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE, Laguna Santa Maria, *N. L. & E. G. Britton, & C. S. Gager*, no. 7126, September 8, 1910. Wet sandy pine-lands, Sierra del Cabra, on Guane Road, *N. L. & E. G. Britton, & C. S. Gager*, no. 7272, September 9, 1910, on hillside.

AMES BOTANICAL LABORATORY,
NORTH EASTON, MASS.

UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF CUBAN CACTI

BY N. L. BRITTON AND J. N. ROSE

Pereskia cubensis sp. nov.

A tree up to 4 meters high, with a trunk up to 2.5 dm. in diameter, and a large, much-branched-top; bark brownish, rather smooth, marked by black horizontal bands (representing the old areoles) broader than high. Young branches slender, smooth, with light brown bark; spines of young areoles 2 or 3, needle-like, 2-3 cm. long, of old areoles very numerous (25 or more) and much longer (5 cm. or more long); leaves bright green on both sides, somewhat fleshy, the midvein broad, distinct, the lateral veins very obscure, oblanceolate to oblong-elliptic, several at each areole, 1.5-4 cm. long, 10-12 mm. wide, acute at both ends; flowers small, white (?), solitary; peduncle very short (2-3 mm. long), fleshy, jointed near the base, bearing 1 to 3 leaf-like bracts; fruit not seen.

Dry thickets at 5-10 meters elevation, province of Oriente.

Specimens examined: *C. Wright 205 (type)*; Los Caños, March, 1909 (*N. L. Britton 2013*); near Caimanera (*Eggers 5441*).

ILLUSTRATION: *Jour. N. Y. Bot. Gard.* **10**: 109. f. 22. 1909.

Wright's plant was distributed as *P. portulacifolia* and so recorded by Grisebach, but that species of Hispaniola has quite different leaves, as is shown by the old illustration of *Cactus portulacifolius* L. is based (Plumier, ed. Burmann, *pl.* 197. f. 1) and by specimens collected by Buch in Haiti, examined by Professor Urban.

A similar, perhaps identical, species grows on La Vigia Hill, Trinidad, Province of Santa Clara (*Britton & Wilson 5513*).

***Opuntia cubensis* sp. nov.**

Plants about 6 dm. high, rather widely branched. Joints oblong, dull green, 8–18 cm. long, 7 cm. wide or less, 1–2 cm. thick, not readily detached, their margins slightly crenate; areoles 1–2 cm. apart; spines 2–5 at each areole, acicular, pale yellow when young, becoming grayish-white, the longer 5 cm. long or less; glochides numerous, brown, 3–4 mm. long; ovary clavate, 4 cm. long, bearing several tufts of glochides; corolla pale yellow, 8 cm. broad.

In sand, valley near coast, U. S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, March, 1909, *N. L. Britton 2064*.

A species of the Series *Tunae*, related to *O. Dillenii* and *O. lucayana*, both of which have brighter yellow spines and strongly crenate joints.

3. *Cephalocereus Brooksianus* sp. nov.

Plant 3–6 meters high, stout, much branched at base, dark bluish-green, densely pruinose. Ribs 8 to 9 deep, obtuse; areoles closely set, in flowering specimens almost contiguous, and bearing long hairs, very dense in flowering specimens; spines about 16, yellow, all somewhat similar, the upper one of each areole ascending; flowers about 5 cm. long, purplish; ovary naked.

Near Novaliches, about six miles south of Guantanamo, May 8, 1907 (*Wm. R. Maxon 4512*).

Named in honor of Mr. Theodore Brooks, of Guantanamo, who has greatly facilitated the botanical exploration of eastern Cuba.

Leptocereus Leoni sp. nov.

Plant up to 5 m. high, repeatedly branching, the round trunk 3 dm. in diameter at the base, the cortex scaly-roughened, the old areoles 1-1.5 cm. apart in vertical rows and bearing acicular spines. Ultimate branches about 1.5 cm. thick, slender, elongated, 6-8-ribbed, the ribs crenate, the areoles borne at the depressions, 1-1.5 cm. apart; spines 6-12 at each areole, yellowish when young, gray when old, slenderly acicular, 2-9 cm. long; wool brown, very short; perianth pink, withering-persistent, narrowly campanulate, 3.5 cm. long; the limb about one fourth as long as the tube, which bears numerous scattered areoles, each with 1-4 short spines or some of them spineless; segments of the limb about 15, oblong-orbicular, obtuse; stamens very numerous; stigma not exerted; fruit globose-oval, 2 cm. in diameter, with a few scattered spine-bearing areoles; seeds black.

Limestone cliffs, Sierra de Anafe, near Guayabal, extreme eastern part of the province of Pinar del Rio (*Brother Leon*, Nov. 9, 1911, 2819, type; 2802; *Britton, Cowell & Leon* 9594).

Leptocereus arboreus sp. nov.

Plant up to 5 meters high, erect, much branched. Joints 3-10 dm. long, 4-6 cm. wide, narrowed at base; ribs 4, narrow, thin, 1.5-2 cm. deep, somewhat depressed between the areoles; areoles 2.5-4 cm. or less apart; spines 10 or fewer, acicular, yellowish, becoming gray, radiating, the longer up to 5 cm. long; corolla short-campanulate, about 2 cm. long, almost enclosed in the bur-like ovary; petals cream-colored; fruit ellipsoid, 8-10 cm. long, 5-6 cm. thick, its areoles bearing tufts of numerous light yellow spines.

Rocky hillside, Punta Sabanilla, mouth of Cienfuegos Bay, Province of Santa Clara, February 24, 1910 (*Britton, Earle & Wilson* 4573, type); Castillo de Jagua, Cienfuegos Bay (*Britton, Cowell & Earle* 10298).

Coryphantha cubensis sp. nov.

Plants depressed-globose, tufted, 2-3 cm. broad, pale green. Tubercles numerous, vertically compressed, 6-7 mm. long, 4-5 mm. wide, about 3 mm. thick, grooved on the upper side from the apex to below the middle, the groove very distinct; spines about 10, whitish, radiating, acicular but weak, 3-6 mm. long, those of young mamillae subtended by a tuft of silvery white

hairs 1.5 mm. long; flowers pale green, 16 mm. high, the segments acute.

Among small stones in barren savanna southeast of Holguin, Oriente (*J. A. Shafer 2946*).

Cactus Harlowii sp. nov.

Plants light green, 2.5 dm. high or less, simple or sometimes in clusters of 3 to 6 on the tops of old individuals. Ribs 12, rather narrow; areoles becoming glabrate, closely set (less than 1 cm. apart); radial spines about 12, slender, slightly spreading, 10 to 20 mm. long, reddish, becoming straw-colored in age; central spines 4, similar to the radials, stouter and longer, sometimes 3 cm. long, often somewhat curved; cephalium prominent, composed of white wool and fine reddish brown bristles projecting beyond the wool; flowers small, 2 cm. long, deep rose red; fruit deep red, obovoid, short, 2 cm. long; seeds black, shining.

Coastal cliffs, U. S. Naval Station, southern Oriente, March, 1909. *N. L. Britton 1965*.

Named in honor of Captain Charles Henry Harlow, U.S.N., commandant at the Naval Station at the time this interesting species was collected.

CURRENT LITERATURE

A NEW PAINT-DESTROYING FUNGUS is the title of an interesting paper by Mr. George Masee, in the *Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, England*, No. 8, p. 325. In this place Mr. Masee describes a new species (*Phoma pigmentivora* Mass.) which is very destructive to white paint when present in greenhouses having a high humidity and temperature. We know that certain fungi grow upon media as diverse and apparently unsuitable as dilute mineral acids, writing ink, tannic acid solutions, etc., but they do not often fruit under such conditions. However, this fungus not only grows upon the paint, but seems to flourish and even produces its fruit in abundance. At first thought it seems somewhat startling that a plant should thrive upon a medium like paint containing large amounts of lead, which is usually one of the most toxic of agents acting upon organisms. This is another example of the great